

FREEMAN'S REPORT ON THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF APRIL 23, 2013

Note: (1). These are not official minutes -- -- just notes taken by me. Official minutes will be available from the Town Office and will be posted on the Town web site and at the Town Office and other places following Board approval at the next meeting.

(2). If anyone wishes to stop receiving these reports, they may simply hit "Reply" and request to be deleted from the list or say "Unsubscribe."

(3). Reports of earlier meetings and some supplementary materials are available at my Town Meeting website:

www.singingbridge.net

THE MEETING: There were two members of the public present.

The minutes of the meeting of April 19 were approved.

MOST IMPORTANT/INTERESTING ITEMS: In my judgment, the following items were the most important things covered during the meeting.

1. Kristin Malin, Chair of the School Committee came in to discuss the funding of a proposed enhancement to the security of the school building. The proposal involves installing four cameras, locking the doors during the day and requiring that people get "buzzed in," and changing the locks from keys to "swipe cards." The total cost would be about \$20,000. The funding options are: (i) The School Committee can find \$10,000 in the current year budget to start the work and request the remaining \$10,000 in the budget for 2013-14, or (ii) request approval of the full \$20,000 in the 2013-14 budget at Town Meeting in June. The Selectmen voted for option (ii).

2. Kristen Coombs, Town Clerk, came in with Deputy Clerk Kathryn Cecero to discuss their request to increase the hours that are budgeted for each of their positions. The intention of their request is to move toward a budget that more fairly reflects the actual hours needed to keep up with the workload. Kristen had compiled data on budgets, hours, and pay for these positions in comparable towns in our area. She said that the hours budgeted for Georgetown fall far below what the data shows is needed for positions doing equivalent or lesser work.

Geoff Birdsall said that he was reluctant to have another increase since there had been an increase for the 2012-13 fiscal year. Bill Plummer said that Kristen had known what the budget was when she chose to run for the position. After further discussion, the Selectmen voted to keep the budget lines the same as for the current year.

3. Regarding possible violations of Shoreland Zoning and septic disposal regulations at the Sagadahoc Campground: At the last meeting, it had been agreed that Mary would draft a letter for the Kosalkas' signature spelling out what the Kosalkas needed to do. This letter has not been completed. There was an extended discussion of what was to be included in what was referred to as an "action plan." Mary will continue work on this document.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mary reported on correspondence received. For a complete listing of this correspondence, see the Meeting Agenda at: www.georgetownme.com/Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes.php

One item to note was the Sagadahoc County Budget Hearing has been scheduled for April 30 at 6 PM.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Regarding applications to renew Tree Growth status on two parcels, the Town is waiting for reviews from the Maine Forest Service.
2. It was noted that the position of Town Office Gallery Director is has not been filled. Mary will continue to seek a volunteer.
3. Proposed revisions to the Animal Control Ordinance have been reviewed by the Town Counsel. Suggested revisions will be incorporated into a draft for the Public Hearing on May 1.
4. The revised Shoreland Zoning maps were approved for the Public Hearing on May 1. The revisions show the approximately 55 parcels that are proposed to be changed from Resource Protection to Limited Residential.

NEW BUSINESS: Mary reported that the copier was having problems and recommended replacing it with a newer refurbished machine that would cost about \$1,900. The Selectmen agreed to put this amount in the budget for the next fiscal year.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, April 30, at the Town Office. The sole item on the agenda will be to hear the report of the Financial Advisory Committee and to agree on a budget for fiscal year 2013-14 to present at the budget hearing on May 15 and at Town Meeting on June 8.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman